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SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED PROGRESS REPORT

HONOURABLE NEIL CRAWFORD

MINISTER

ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

November 21, 1972

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DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

PROGRESS REPORT

TO OCTOBER 31, 1972

Establishment of New Division of Services for the Handicapped

A Director and Community Services Consultant have been appointed, and are active in reviewing existing programs and new proposals, both institutional and community based. We are also seeking an Associate Director of Services for the Handicapped to assist in developing a comprehensive plan for services to the handicapped and to provide expert consultation and assessment services to the Director, Institutions and the community.

Administrative costs for this new Division are estimated at \$60,000.00 in this fiscal year.

Centre for the Care of Mentally Handicapped 98th Avenue & 112th Street, Edmonton

A total of 88 severely handicapped children have been transferred from the Alberta School Hospital, Red Deer, to the Centre. This phase was completed in August, 1972, and fulfills the initial objective of the Centre to enable a reduction in the waiting list of children to the Alberta School Hospital.

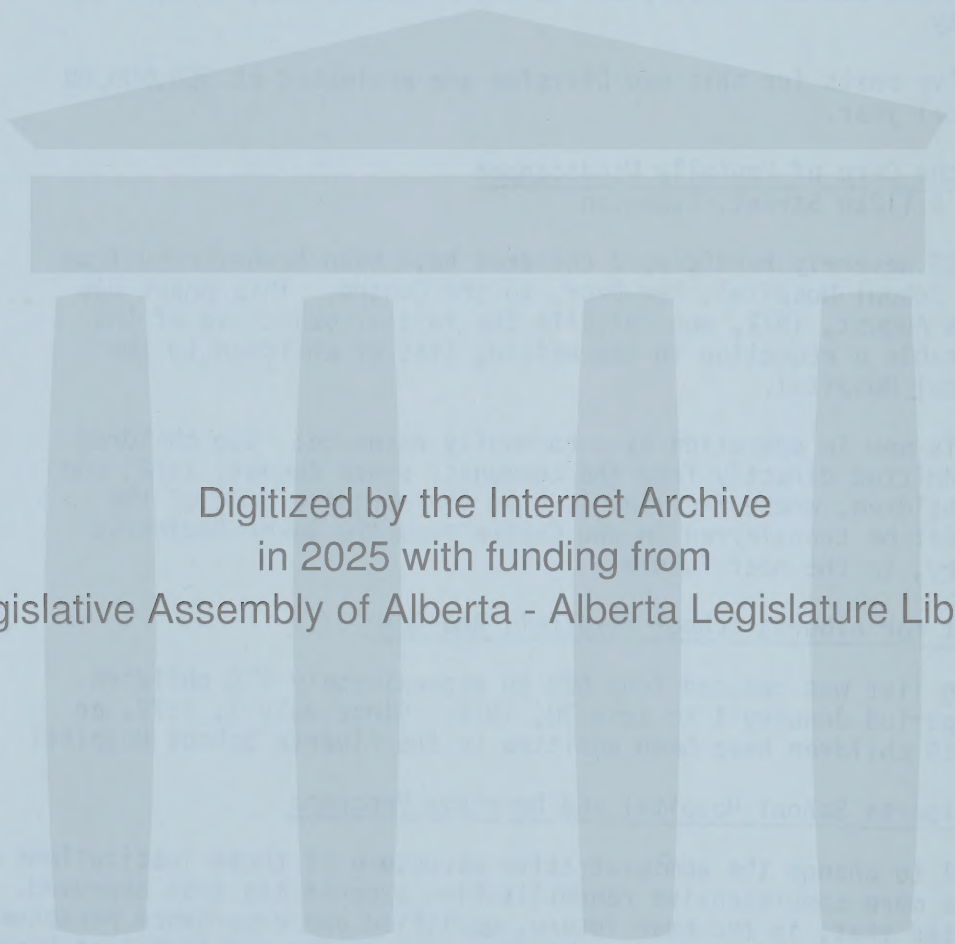
The Centre is now in operation as a community resource: two children have been admitted directly from the community since August, 1972, and two other children, whose families live in the northern part of the Province, will be transferred to the Centre from the Baker Pediatric Unit, Calgary, in the near future.

Waiting list for Alberta School Hospital, Red Deer

This waiting list was reduced from 600 to approximately 450 children during the period January 1 to June 30, 1972. Since July 1, 1972, an additional 50 children have been admitted to the Alberta School Hospital.

Review of Alberta School Hospital and Deerhome Programs

The proposal to change the administrative structure of these institutions and to develop a more comprehensive rehabilitation program has been approved. It is expected that, in the near future, qualified and experience personnel will be recruited to major responsibilities as Director and Assistant Director of Rehabilitation Services. The most important part of their duties, initially, will be a thorough analysis of existing programs, and, recommendations concerning the development of additional services to fulfill our objectives of preparing the maximum number of residents to function in the community.



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Sheltered Workshops for Adult Handicapped Persons

The following community agencies have received grants totalling \$283,350.00 to assist in development and operation of sheltered workshops.

AGENCY	GRANT
Medicine Hat Rehab Society	\$ 7,920.00
Edmonton Rehab Society	72,000.00
Calgary Rehab Society	16,000.00
Advance Industries	55,800.00 *
Lethbridge Assoc. for Mentally Retarded	26,100.00 *
Lethbridge Rehab Society	22,800.00
Grande Prairie Assoc. for Mentally Retarded	24,120.00 *
Lloydminster Assoc. for Mentally Retarded	7,420.00
Cosmos Enterprises (Red Deer)	<u>51,143.50</u> *
	\$283,353.50

* Includes Capital and Operating Grant

These grants have provided an opportunity for 346 physically and mentally handicapped adults to function in a "Sheltered Work" setting.

Community Residences for the Handicapped

As of September 1, 1972, the Cabinet has approved a new policy for funding community residences for handicapped children and adults. In the near future, it is anticipated that grants totalling approximately \$100,000.00 will be made to 8 community agencies for the operation of 10 residences which will provide small group-living accommodation to 95 handicapped persons. By March 31, 1973, it is anticipated that grants will be made to 7 additional community agencies, who will provide community residence accommodation to another 120 handicapped persons.

Department-Operated Community Homes for the Retarded

In addition to residences operated by community agencies, the Department is planning to develop and operate "group residences" in Edmonton and Red Deer. These residences will also provide an alternative to institutional placement of a retarded person, and it is anticipated that they will accommodate up to 40 handicapped persons by March 31, 1973.

Day Training Centres for Handicapped Children

New and expanded day training programs for severely handicapped children are currently being developed in Edmonton and Calgary, in cooperation with concerned agencies in the community. It is expected that a minimum of 110 additional severely handicapped children will receive the benefit of these programs, which should be in operation within the next six months.

In other areas of the Province, the Department is exploring the use of existing day care facilities as the basis for integrated day training programs for mentally handicapped children.

9. Appointment of Community Services Workers for the Handicapped

A total of 9 community services workers have been recruited and are presently employed in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Red Deer and Grande Prairie. These Workers will be responsible for ensuring that handicapped persons receive the services they require, at the community level, wherever possible, and are an essential part of our undertaking to replace mentally retarded persons from the institution back into the community.

10. Maintenance Charges for Retarded Children and Adults in Institutions

A new policy was implemented effective June 1, 1972, concerning maintenance charges to parents of retarded children in institutions; all parents affected have been notified and the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

Voluntary contributions are continuing.

